

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated September 3, 2003, having a shortened statutory period set to expire December 3, 2003. Claims 6, 7-13, 14, 20 and 21 are pending.

REMARKS

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 2 of the present Office Action, Claims 6-7, 13-14, and 20-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Duncan et al.* ("*Duncan*"), US Patent No. 6,163,844. These rejections are respectfully traversed and reconsideration of the claims is requested.

In exemplary claim 6 of the present application, there is recited *inter alia*:

distributing the obtained content label categories and obtained associated user restrictions to each of a plurality of communications programs within the data processing system, wherein at least two of the communications programs employ different communications protocols;

On page two of the present office action, it is contended that *Duncan* teaches this step at column 10, lines 29-51. While therein *Duncan* teaches that the ACU contains an algorithm for accessing the access control list (ACL), column 10 of *Duncan* nowhere describes "a plurality of communication programs" receiving the ACL. Still more particularly, nowhere does *Duncan* teach "distributing" the "obtained content label categories and associated user restrictions" (or the ACL) to "a plurality of communications programs within the data processing system" and wherein "two of the communication programs employ different communications protocols," as is recited in Claim 6. Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in *Duncan* suggests that two communications programs employing different communications protocols access the ACL provided in the system of *Duncan*.

Exemplary Claim 6 in the present application further recites *inter alia*:

setting access controls for at least two of the communications programs within the data processing system that employ different communications protocols as a function of the content label categories and associated user restrictions.

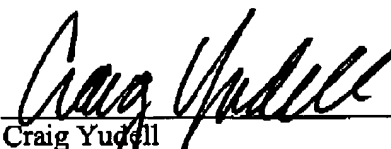
On page 3 of the present Office Action it is admitted that *Duncan* does not disclose this step of exemplary claim 6, but is argued that *Duncan*'s disclosure at column 10, lines 29-51 suggest the same. Again, Applicants respectfully disagree. As specifically taught at column 10, lines 33-34, programs requesting access to documents 10 and 13 must meet the conditions of network protocol TCP/IP and the HTTP format. Therefore, the communication programs DO NOT employ different communication protocols. Further, while *Duncan* teaches at column 10, lines 47-51 that the ACU determines access rights to hypertext documents 10 and 13, nothing within the disclosure at column 10 suggests that these access controls apply to a plurality of communication programs, wherein two employ different communications protocols.

For the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of Claim 6 as being unpatentable over *Duncan*. *Duncan* does not teach distributing content label categories and user restrictions, and further setting access controls, for at least two communication programs within the data processing system that employ different communication protocols, as is recited in Claim 6. For the same reasons, Applicants also request reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 13 and 20 as being unpatentable over *Duncan*.

With respect to exemplary Claim 7 in the present application, the present Office Action on page 4 argues that *Duncan* discloses this claim at the column 10, lines 29-51. However, Applicant's point out that nothing within column 10 of *Duncan* shows, suggests or is even related to "installation of a communications program." Nothing within column 10 shows setting access controls for a communications program being installed. Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that *Duncan* does not show or suggest exemplary Claim 7 in the present application and that the rejection under § 103 should be reconsidered. Similarly, for the reasons given above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 14 and 21 under § 103 as being unpatentable over *Duncan*.

It is believed that no fee is required by this amendment; however, in the event any additional fees are required, please charge any such fee to **IBM Corporation Deposit Account Number 09-0447**.

Respectfully submitted,



Craig Yuddell

Reg. No. 69,083

BRACEWELL & PATTERSON, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 969

Austin, Texas 78767-0969

Tel.: 512.472.7800

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANT(S)

Doc ID 126066

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 21 2003

OFFICIAL